

# TOP MUSEUM

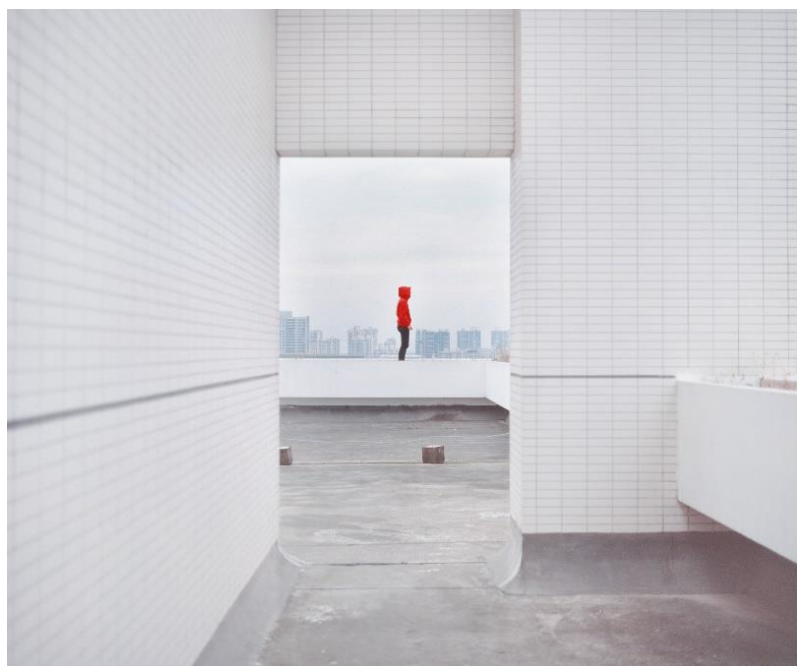
8 Sep, 2018, Press Release

東京都写真美術館  
TOKYO PHOTOGRAPHIC ART MUSEUM

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www.topmuseum.jp

I know something about love, asian contemporary photography

October 2 (Tue.) — November 25 (Sun.), 2018



CHEN Zhe, *Bees #065-01*, from the series "Bees" (2010)

© Chen Zhe

## Exhibition Objectives

Asia is undergoing a period of spectacular transformation and development. In the fields of both contemporary photography and art interest in Asia continues to grow. This exhibition will focus on the current state of the family, sexuality and gender to introduce the changing face of contemporary Asia through the work of women artists representing China, Singapore, Taiwan, South Korea, Zainichi Korean (residing in Japan) and Japan. They may vary in nationality, age, and artistic career, but are all highly regarded as Asian contemporary artists and through their sense of values they share the ever-changing 'now' of Asia. Each of them confronts their reality and the 'now' directly, to keep moving forward. In the depths of their gaze, we are able to see that they 'know something about love.'

Press contact

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TOKYO PHOTOGRAPHIC ART MUSEUM

## Participating Artists

### KIM Insook (Korea, 1978– )

Born in Osaka, 1978, a third generation Zainichi Korean (residing in Japan) . After graduating in photography from the Visual Arts College Osaka, she traveled to Korea where she studied painting, photography and images at the Graduate School of Arts of Hansung University, receiving her M.A. in 2005. She currently lives and works in Seoul. She has produced several series of works, such as *sweet hours'* (2001– ), which focuses on life in the Osaka Korean High School, or *SAIESEO: between two Koreas and Japan* (2008– ) that presents a family portrait of life as an ethnic Korean in Japan, in which she highlights the problems of identity, community, race and family that arise when living in the gap between different cultures. She has been invited to participate in numerous art festivals and group exhibitions in Japan and abroad, including, *Go-Betweens: The World Seen through Children* (Mori Art Museum, 2014–2015), *Light 2016* (Gwangju Museum of Art, Korea, 2016–2017), *Family Report* (Gyeonggi Museum of Modern Art, Korea, 2017), *#Selfie - The people who take picture by themselves* (SAVINA Museum of Contemporary art, Korea, 2017), etc.



KIM Insook, *Son and I* from the series “SAIESEO: between two Koreas and Japan” (2008) © Kim Insook

### KIM Oksun (Korea, 1967– )

Born in Seoul 1967. Graduated with an M.F.A. from the Department of Industrial Design (Photography), Hongik University, Seoul, Korea in 1996. She became recognized as one of Korea's leading photographers with her series, *Happy Together* (2000–2004) that features interracial couples. She began to focus on works that look at identity and inter-cultural conflict with *Hamel's Boat* (2008), continuing this theme with *No Direction Home* (2009–2011), which consists of portraits of the foreigners who live on Jeju Island, and *The Shining Things* (2011) that features various plants that have been introduced into Jeju. In 2017 she received the 8th Ilwoo Photo Award, Seoul, Korea (Korean Airlines) and in 2016 she won the 15th Dong Gang Photography Award at the Dong Gang International Photo Festival, Yeongwol, Korea. Her solo exhibitions include *Museum of Innocence* (Goeun Museum of Photography, Pusan, 2016), *The Shining Things* (The Museum of Photography, Seoul, 2014), *No Direction Home* (The Museum of Photography,

Seoul, 2011) and many more. She has also been invited to participate in numerous art festivals and group exhibitions, including: 1st Jeju Biennale (Jeju Museum of Art, Jeju, 2017), *Public to Private: Photography in Korean Art since 1989*, (National Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art, Seoul, 2016), *Chaotic Harmony* (Santa Barbara Museum of Art, Santa Barbara, USA, 2010), and many others. She currently lives on Jeju Island.



KIM Oksun, *Hiroyo and Michael 2*, from the series “*Happy Together*” (2004)  
©Oksun KIM

HOU Lulu Shur-Tzy (Taiwan, 1962– )



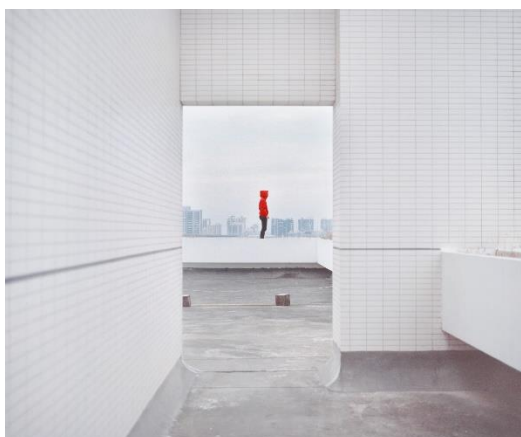
Born in Chiayi, Taiwan in 1962. Graduated from the Department of Philosophy at National Taiwan University in 1985. Received a Master of Fine Art degree from the Rochester Institute of Technology, U.S.A. in 1992. From 2004 to the present, she has worked as an assistant professor in the Creative Design/Architecture department of the National University of Kaohsiung. From the beginning of her career, she has explored the themes of gender, identity, social class and ethnicity, through such works as *Take a picture, it lasts longer* (1996), in which she used her own body as a subject to satirize the way of women are looked upon and women’s expected roles, and *Labors and Labels* (1997), that looks at women working in the spinning mills of Taiwan, etc. In particular, her *Border-crossing/Cultural Identities—Song of Asian Foreign Brides in Taiwan* (2005, 2008, 2009), which she started in 2004, uses the theme of women from Vietnam, Cambodia, Thailand and Indonesia who come to Taiwan as mail-order brides. Consisting of photographs and text, this three-part series was shown in a solo exhibition in the Kaohsiung Museum of Fine Arts in 2010 and has become recognized as her representative work.

HOU Lulu Shur-Tzy, *Shabg Jiu-ju & Lu Duo 01*, From the series “*A Trilogy on Kaohsiung Military Dependents’ Villeges—Episode I : Here is where we meet (Lizfi New Village)*”, 2012 ©Lulu Shur-Tzy Hou

Another series in which she employs her unique ‘double-gaze’ technique of juxtaposing two identical photographs, one being digitally processed and superimposed with the text written by the subject, is *A Trilogy on Kaohsiung Military Dependents’ Villages*, that she showed to wide acclaim at the Kaohsiung Museum of Fine Arts in 2017. Her activities are not limited to Taiwan and she has also been invited to participate exhibitions in America, Europe, Japan, Hong Kong, etc.

### CHEN Zhe (China, 1989– )

Born in Beijing in 1989. Graduated in photography from the ArtCenter College of Design, Los Angeles in 2011. Her series of work, *The Bearable*, which deals with the subject of self-harm, received the Three Shadows Photography Art Centre Award (2011), the Lianzhou Festival New Photography Award(2011) and the Xitek New Talent Award (2015), while the photobook version of *Bees & The Bearable* won the Best Photobook Award at the Fotobook Festival Kassel in 2016, making her currently one of the most talked about women artists in China today. She is currently working on a series entitled *Towards Evening: Six Chapters* in which she uses diaries and letters as her material to explore the theme of words and images.



CHEN Zhe, *Bees #065-01*, from the series “*Bees*” (2010) © Chen Zhe

### Geraldine KANG (Singapore, 1988– )

Born in Singapore, 1988. Having graduated from the School of Art, Design and Media, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore in 2011, she is currently studying at the Parsons School of Design, New York. She first received attention for a series of family portraits, *entitled in the raw* (2010-2011) that she produced as a project while she was still in university, and after graduation was invited to participate in group exhibitions in Singapore, Germany, Netherlands, New York, etc., achieving recognition as a young artist while continuing her energetic activities. Her main works include, *Of two bedrooms* (2010-2015) that featured her relationship with her grandmother and her grandmother’s death; *As quietly as rhythms go* (2014), which consists of nighttime photographs of a construction site by the Sungei Serangoon River; *Left to Right* (2016), which is a photobook created in collaboration with fifty-three artists and curators on



the theme of the image and *How do you sleep at night?* (2017– ), which looks at Singapore’s garbage collectors and immigrant laborers.



Geraldine KANG, *08:33* (2010), from the series “*In the raw*”, (2010 – 2011)

© Geraldine Kang

## SUDO Ayano (Japan, 1986– )



SUDO Ayano, 2013, from the series “*Gespenster*”

(2013–2014) ©Ayano Sudo/須藤絢乃

Born in Osaka, 1986. Completed a master’s degree course at Kyoto City University of Arts graduate school in 2011. While still in university, she studied overseas at École nationale supérieure des Beaux-Arts, Paris. In 2009, she received the Mayor’s Award for a work that she produced at Kyoto City University of Arts. In 2011 she received a Special Jurists’ Honorable Mention Award from MORIMURA Yasumasa at the MiO Photo Award. In 2014 her work *Gespenster* was awarded the Grand Prize at the Canon New Cosmos of Photography Exhibition. Among her main works are *Metamorphose* (2011– ), which features photographs of her and her friends transformed into ideal forms, regardless of sex; *Gespenster* (2013–14), that is a series of self-portraits in which she adopts the likeness of actual missing girls; *Autoscopy* (2015), which uses as its motif the phenomenon in which a person visualizes other people as resembling themselves, etc. After holding her first solo exhibition at the 1839 Contemporary Gallery (Taiwan, 2011), she has participated in numerous exhibitions and art fairs both in Japan and abroad. Among the major exhibitions she has taken part in was *New Planet Photo City - William Klein and Photographers Living in the 22nd Century* (21\_21 Design Sight, Tokyo, 2018) and many others.

## Events

### Gallery Talk by exhibition curator

The curator will provide explanatory talks on the exhibits from 14:00, every 2nd and 4th Friday of the month during the course of the exhibition. Please gather at the entrance of the 2nd floor gallery with a current exhibition ticket (date-stamped for that day). [in Japanese]

### Relay Talk

- HOU Lulu & Shur-Tzy, KIM Oksun / October 4 (Thu.), 18:00–20:00 [in Japanese]
- CHEN Zhe & Geraldine KANG / October 5 (Fri.) 18:00–20:00
- KIM Insook & SUDO Ayano / November 17 (Sat.) 15:30–17:00 [in Japanese]

Venue: Tokyo Photographic Art Museum 1F. Studio

Seating Capacity: 50. (Entrance will be in order of numbered tickets issued upon arrival, all seats unreserved).

Entrance Fee: Free with numbered ticket.

\* Numbered tickets will be issued at the information desk on the 1st floor from 10:00 in the morning of the same day.

### Discussion

KOKATSU Reiko (modern/contemporary art historian, art critic) × KASAHARA Michiko (Vice Director, Bridgestone Museum of Art, previously Chief Curator, Tokyo Photographic Art Museum)

October 13 (Sat.) 15:30–17:00 [in Japanese]

Venue: Tokyo Photographic Art Museum 1F. Studio / Seating Capacity: 50. (Entrance will be in order of numbered tickets issued upon arrival, all seats unreserved). / Entrance Fee: Free with numbered ticket.

\* Numbered tickets will be issued at the information desk on the 1st floor from 10:00 in the morning of the same day.

\*Changes may be made due to circumstances beyond our control

## Outline of Event

Venue: Tokyo Photographic Art Museum, 2F Gallery

Open Hours: 10:00–18:00 (Thu./Fri. 10:00–20:00) \*Final admission 30 minutes before closing

Museum Closed: Closed every Monday

\*The Museum will open on Oct. 8 (Mon, national holiday) and close on Oct. 9 (Tue.)

Admission Fee: Adults ¥800 (640), Students ¥700 (560), Junior and Senior High School Students/People aged 65 or over ¥600 (480)

\*The figures in parentheses indicate the discount rate for groups of 20 or more.

\*Admission is free for grade school children or younger, and people with a handicapped person's passbook together with their carers

\*People aged 65 or over are free on the third Wednesday of each month.

Organized by Tokyo Metropolitan Foundation for History and Culture, Tokyo Photographic Art Museum, The Tokyo Shimbun

Sponsored by Friends of the Tokyo Photographic Art Museum/Toppan Printing Co., Ltd./Shiseido Co., Ltd.